



Chicago Chapter President's Letter

June 2009

As this is my last President's letter I would like to write of every person that carried the ball for me during my term but I'm limited to just 400 words and while a list of two hundred names would be more interesting than my usual rambling. However Cathy Beazley and the Board of Directors, Committee Heads and members raised the bar in many aspects. Our membership strengthened and grew due to your interest and desire to be better at your jobs. I recently passed the LEED AP exam and suggest that you consider taking this step after you have your CSI credentials. During tough times, the best get better.

Thanks to Tom Boissy and the membership committee for another sparkling Wine Down event.

Be sure to reserve your place at the Annual Awards Banquet on May 14th at Mercat. A lot of preparation goes into this event.

I hope all of you have made your hotel reservations in Indianapolis for Construct 2009. Some of us will be staying at the Downtown Hampton. We will have a carpool list at the Awards Banquet on May 14th.

This last quarter I was able to attend 10 different chapter meetings from Honolulu to Metro NY. We have it goin' on!

Please continue to reach out to other disciplines so the blend of our organization creates the synergy that only diversity can provide. I want to wish John Birazzi as much fun as I have had during my term as President. I look forward to helping at the regional level and with the chapter as this organization has helped me improve my professional skills and I owe the chapter due to this.

Thanks to all,
Nolan

nday@lyonworkspace.com



Chicago Chapter President's Letter

April 2009

As your daffodils are popping up outside your window please ready yourself for a busy CSI spring and summer.

Since I last wrote, we hosted two capacity filled presentations given on Six Ways of Condensation by Wagdy Anis of Wiss, Janney, Elstner. A plug for WJE from a manufacturer's perspective; I have been involved with projects from coast to coast and have been very impressed with the expertise and professional demeanor that WJE employees bring to the jobsite. HUGE thanks to Dupont-Tyvek/Parksite and Bill Cohen for coming through as sponsors for the seventh smashing year in a row!

Our annual Wine Down event was a tasty success. A great way to meet new members and for even those of us follically challenged to let our hair down.

With Construct 2009 coming up in June 16 - 19 in Indianapolis make sure you make your hotel reservations early and talk with your fellow and fella CSI members about car pooling.

There will be a tribute to our own Gary Betts who served as the National President so don't miss that day. I will be leading a tour in Indy while doing research (my lovely wife mistakenly calls it drinking) for my Oldest Pubs in America book.

To keep our chapter improving please make time to fill out the membership survey due to arrive soon so we continue to reflect the desires and needs of our membership. After having no dues increase the last three years we have had to slightly raise dues to factor in increased costs. John Birazzi has put together a great list of nominees for Board of Director positions for this next year. Please vote and step up to help with a committee. Sharing the workload makes for better events and helps us avoid volunteer burnout.

Please suggest any speakers you have been impressed by recently or in the next month for our Annual Product Show and Conference to be held October 20th at Drury Lane. Contact the chapter office for an application.

On a personal note; Due to an economic/lender situation my former company had a massive layoff, which 69 others and I were affected by. The help I have received from so many CSI colleagues is beyond networking. I'm overwhelmed to the point of getting misty by this kindness. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. Darn squirrels are carrying off my bulbs-Gotta run. Per Augustus ad Augustus.(Ask me next meeting ;)
Nolan

nday@lyonworkspace.com



Chicago Chapter President's Letter March 2009

How green was my valley?

I only have the podium here for a year at CSI so I apologize for preaching green so often.

I grew up amongst some of the best farmland in the nation. Iowa, Illinois your might assume? Wrong!

The San Fernando Valley just over the Hollywood Hills from Los Angeles. Where I once made off with pumpkins from a nearby field to be used for science experiments (fall speed measurements off my dorm's rooftop) it became as Joni Mitchell sang "They paved paradise and put up a parking lot", an asphalt lot that

sheds badly needed water in that arid environment.

Please promote the use of CSI's Green Format to your company marketing department or Project Managers. This is a new opportunity to reach out to Architects regarding the green nature of your products is where some budget money should be spent. An update of GreenFormat from the Institute is on the following page.

If you were recently unemployed and successful in your job search and have the contact information for a firm or manufacturer that is looking for applicants please let Cathy Beazley know.

Cheers,
Nolan Day

nday@lyonworkspace.com



Chicago Chapter President's Letter February 2009

My lime tree is not blooming yet but the CDT candidates are ardently working in the study sessions for the spring exams so let the warm weather come too. We wish all of the candidates 70% (at a minimum) success.

I grew up in a Union Contracting family and was a carpenter, painter and studio grip apprentice from age 15 through college. I was fortunate to have the excellent training provided by the union apprentice programs in addition to my Architecture curriculum at school.

Unions are needed, when wise management is guiding them. Unions provide a great model for businesses that want to succeed as Unions know education of their workers is what makes them the best workers in a particular trade.

In labor economic courses I took in university I learned that unions can help keep fair wages and health benefits for the workers in tough times. I also learned when I was living in Wales in the early 80's that Unions can also contribute to the ruin of an industry as they did in the steel industry when they pushed for too much in dire economic/competitive times. We have a member of the local UBC. If you have any questions about Union labor, please ask for Pete Dinschel.

CSI as an organization also believes the educational opportunities we bring to our members make them more competitive in the Construction industry.

I urge all of you on the manufacturing side to look at your lunch and learn programs and improve them so we keep our professional members at the top of their game through knowledge. Professional members please offer constructive criticism to your CES providers so they can continue to improve their presentations.

With the economy still somewhat lagging we need to help our members whose firms have had to let some folks go. Please let me know if an unfortunate circumstance has occurred or if your firm is looking to fill a position. Do not be shy to come forth as we are here to act as a conduit. Don't forget to check out the CSI Insitute website on their job posting board. www.csinet.org.

If you know of a professional, successful, recruiter for the design or manufacturing segments of our membership please forward this information to Cathy and myself. Suggest to the recruiters that they take out an ad in the Change Order and or reserve a tabletop at our next CSI Chapter meeting.

Over the past three months I have attended 8 different CSI Chapter's meetings from California to New York Metro and received very warm welcomes at all venues.

I would like to request that we have a new member orientation for 10 minutes prior to each chapter meeting. So if you are bring a prospective member please bring them a few minutes early and they can get a snippet of what CSI can bring to their professional table.

I'm pleased to announce that Tom Boissy of National Gypsum has eagerly stepped up to fill in for our ever enthusiastic Membership Chair, Michelle(Gidget)Goodeve who has relocated to Southern California. We wish her great luck and sales on SPF 30.

My condolences to the Crocco and Walker families and friends. Sandie Walker was such a wonderful and interesting person to spend time with. Simply put, our former President and CSI Fellow Ken Crocco was a giant of a man. I will miss them both. Dish out some hugs and kisses for all those you love and care for.

Sincerely,
Nolan



Chicago Chapter President's Letter January 2009

What a bittersweet chapter meeting we had in November with the announcement of our long time member and Membership Chairperson Michelle Goodeve's plan to go west to the land of endless summer in California. We wish wonderful sunsets, good fortune and perfectly shaped waves! The sweet part of the evening was seeing Brynn Schaeffer's of USG's return to Chicago.

Our interesting and informative November speaker Jeff Pratt of KWPP reminded me of my first architectural/engineering school field trip to observe a geothermal system in place at the Burbank California public works yard back in the 70's. I will make it a point to check on the history of this system from the Mayor who is a former classmate when I'm in California early next year.

Use of the green technologies available and encouraging our companies to include green ingredients and practices will make us proud of our efforts one day. If you have a good story to tell about your early green efforts so we can build a history to learn from within our chapter please submit them to Cathy Beazley for inclusion in the Change Order.

I will be brief this letter so I can leave room for Gerard Chappelle's newsletter regarding the benefits of CSI. Please take time to read it on page 9. And bring a new member prospect to our next meeting as it helps keep our membership alive with new ideas.

Happy Holidays & Cowabunga!



Chicago Chapter President's Letter November - December 2008

Melakaleeki Maka(ask me next meeting)

Green is good.

My 8th grade Algebra teacher made an impact in my life. In the 70's (OK early 70's) Mr. Kolpac incorporated lessons about protecting our environment into his classes daily. "Don't walk on tree roots or the grass, walk or ride your bike to school and let your Mom's car stay in the driveway" were his common pleas.

As a manufacturer I get to have direct impact on the way we approach our sourcing of raw materials, use of recycled content, and encourage use of rail as a mode of transportation to our warehouses and project sites. I get to help make a difference and this makes my job interesting. I hope you too can get pumped up regarding your projects or products and their green aspects.

A small effort as a chapter we can make is to carpool (don't be shy to ask if anyone else is driving in from Timbuktu) to our chapter meetings and the CSI Annual Convention at Construct 2009 in Indianapolis in June. I will have a prize for the best carpool example set by any of you that take action and give us the story to tell by our last chapter meeting this year. I can drive 4 in from the O'Hare area for the Holiday party-Just ask me.

Please do a few things.

November-

Vote and attend our Chapter meeting with a guest. This presentation on Geothermal ties right into our green goals.

December-

Join us at the Holiday Party as we celebrate with a Latin Flair and benefit Habitat for Humanity. Our location is "Rumba" (details on page 5) and this is always a great party.

Don't forget to sign up for the CDT exam study sessions. Pete Kovacic and Dan Smith have helped our attendees exceed an astounding 85% pass rate.

Well done!

As the economy toughens and a large number of the nearly 16% of our nation's workforce in the construction industry suffer, let's do all we can do to help our fellow chapter members be successful at their jobs.

Our industry members certainly appreciate the opportunity to present their products. Sometimes they're a good fit and sometimes they might not be quite right for a project, but it does help us justify to our employers why it is worthwhile to belong to this important professional conduit we know as CSI.

Happy Holidays to All,
Nolan Day



Chicago Chapter President's Letter October 2008

Upbeat is a word that I find near impossible to use today as I write with heavy heart and hand. CSI lost a champ of a man recently in our leader and friend Gary Betts. Gary improved all of our lives who have been involved and benefited from the CSI organization whether you knew Gary or had never met him.

Just after St. Patrick's Day I met with Gary and noticed a very short cropped haircut. I offered a hopeful question of "Had he cut his hair for the St Baldrik's fundraiser?" The answer was not what I wanted to hear, sad to say. His cancer had returned. When next St. Patty's day comes and you see me with a shaved head you will know that I went to the barber chair very upbeat as I remember Gary's inner strength and dedication. Sincerest condolences to Gary's loved ones. Please consider joining me in the St Baldrick's Cancer fundraiser next March 17th.

ALA and CSI pulled off another successful Architecture Conference and Product Show on September 16 in large part to the professionalism of Cathy Beazley and Peg Mclean as well as our numerous volunteers, wonderful speakers and sponsors. Please remember our sponsors when need of information on their type of products.

Cart before the horse? I hope not. Bring on the Gold for 2016! Listening to Patrick Ryan and having watched a fantastic world festival in Beijing are all icing on top of the work that the Olympic infrastructure will hopefully bring to Chicagoland. We can look forward to some to some memorable tours of the sports venues that will rival what our forefathers and mothers might have experienced in 1893 when our city was a showcase for the world.

Please make one more effort to bring new members so they get the full benefits our chapter has in store for this year.

Slainte' (Ask me next meeting)

Nolan
nday@lyonworkspace.com